

30 l

9

74

12

104 Sanson

An

Reprod March 14th 1825

Epay on

Gastritis

by

Alfred Friend of Virginia

Nov. 6th A.D. 1824

Apr. 18. 1880

1880

Apr. 18

1880

Apr. 18. 1880

Apr. 18. 1880

Preface-

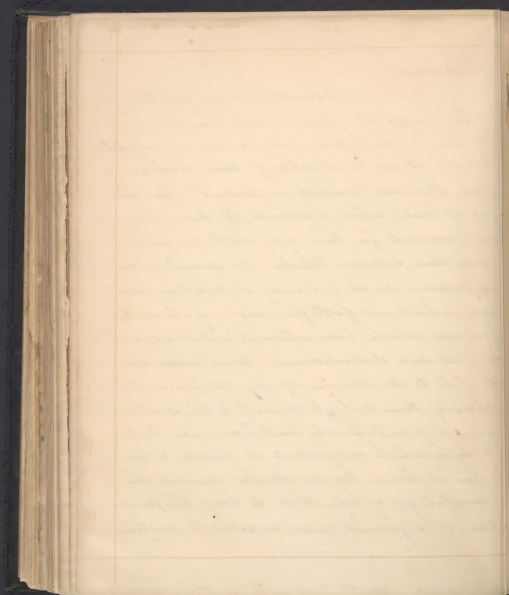
The enjoyment of health uninterruptedly was never one of the many privileges of man. He is extended have been the ravages of disease, that this earth is now become one vast receptacle of the dead. From the time of Adam to this day millions have passed to the final mansion of mortals and yet like slavery though millions have tasted of it, it is the no less bitter on that account. Suffering humanity utters to the physician, cries for relief. 'Tis humiliating to confess, that our art is not so far robbed of its "glorious uncertainties" as to afford to the unfortunate victims of disease more brilliant prospects. Hasten oh time of glorious expectation to that conjuncture, when the *Materia Medica* shall be pregnant with means calculated to subdue those maladies, now the scourge of our nature & reproach of our art. Let man die from the burden of old age, life then will be but

1797

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been admitted to the membership of the Society since the last meeting. The names are arranged in alphabetical order of the surnames. The names of the persons who have been admitted to the membership of the Society since the last meeting are as follows: [The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to fading and bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. It appears to be a list of names, likely members of a society, arranged in alphabetical order.]

a span

I should willingly feel the
weighty responsibility, which devolves upon those who
presume to give license, even this essay, a successful
attempt at the investigation of some medical
fact that men "walketh in darkness." But the
joy of heart, which transcends all description
is reserved for those who wield the pen, of
more than ordinary talent. The summit of my
expectations in the following dissertation, is to
give a lucid and faithful record of its sub-
ject as collected from authors of acknowledged
merit and distinction. Much rather had
I glide to the service of my profession, in
obscurity, than subject myself to the scathing
ray of criticism by writing an essay. But
to avoid which and graduate is contrary to an
inflexible law. For me therefore remains the
momentary joy of hope, that its being the produc-
tion of a juvenile mind, impelled to exertion



from necessity, will so far apologize for its inaccuracies, as to cause oblivious mantle to shroud them—

Gastritis—

If any disease in medical pathology demand the particular attention of the student of medicine, on account of the importance of the health of its seat to the well being of the animal economy it is indubitably gastritis— Located in an organ, individually possessing a greater number of sympathies perhaps, than every other part of the human fabric collectively, it is natural to infer that it will carry with rapidity to awful eternity the unfortunate sufferer unless bridled by energetic, powerful and efficient means—

Symptoms— Except the cuticle, nails, hair, and hardest part of the teeth, every portion of the body is subject to inflammation— By Dr Cullen, inflammation of the stomach is defined "Pyrexia typhodes, in epigastro ardens."

1870

et dolor, ingestis quibuscumque auctus; vomendi cupiditas
et ingesta protinus rejecta; singultus." To the first
part of this definition there is some objection, in
as much as the fever in gastritis bears but little
similarity to typhus, the general debility and
fableness of the pulse being excepted, and the more
marked symptoms of typhus rarely develop
themselves. Dr. Cullen's definition, however,
comprehends the chief symptoms; the stomach
is acutely pained, and accompanied with a
sense of burning, though the pain is not
uniformly fixed to the region of this organ
but extends to the false ribs and sometimes
shoots to the back. If the mildest articles be re-
ceived into the stomach such is its morbid irritability
that incessant vomiting, a prostration of muscular
power and even syncope ensue, the patient com-
plains of anxiety and anguish at praecordia;
the pain is always aggravated by external pressure
sticcup though an occasional is not so constant

a symptom as vomiting. The pulse is frequent
contracted, small, more or less hard and occasionally
intermitting. Scirrhus according to S.W. Whipple yet
says that the pulse is sometimes strong, but that
fact as cancer can seldom occur, when the charac-
teristics of this disease are well developed, because
of the powerful sympathy that manifestly exists between
the stomach and arterial system. The thirst is
intolerable; its qualification affords some respite
from pain, but is deceptive and transitory. The urine
being even rejected. The bowels are costive and obsti-
nately so, if the inflammation shall have extended to
them and the incessant vomiting precludes the possibility
of opening them, by the administration of medicine by
the mouth. When great prostration of strength
with faintings, a short interrupted respiration, cold
clammy sweats and hiccups occurs with cold extremities
and an intermittent pulse, the conjuncture is hopeless
and the patient soon removed beyond the sphere of
earthly trials and tribulations.

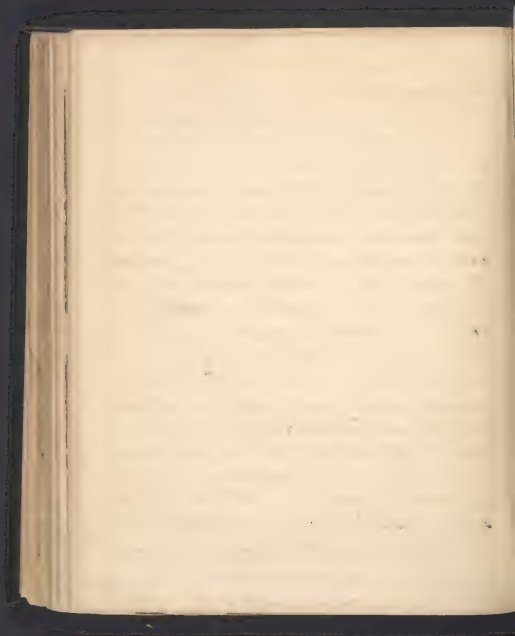


The Anomalous Symptoms of gastritis are manifest. The patient sometimes complains of Dysphagia, which does not arise as is commonly imagined in consequence of the extension of the inflammation to the larynx, but from the inflammation of the stomach rendering the descent of the diaphragm painful. It is evident that the nearer the inflammation is to the diaphragm, the greater will be the dysphagia. Another anomalous symptom attending gastritis is hydrophobia. For this symptom it is exceedingly difficult to account though it supervenes to many acute disorders. Gastritis is sometimes attended by convulsions, which arise from irritation of the pons varii rather than the disease itself. Besides these, there are many more anomalous symptoms which occur from delirious sympathy as, pain and inflammation in the great toe, acute tenderness in the groin &c.

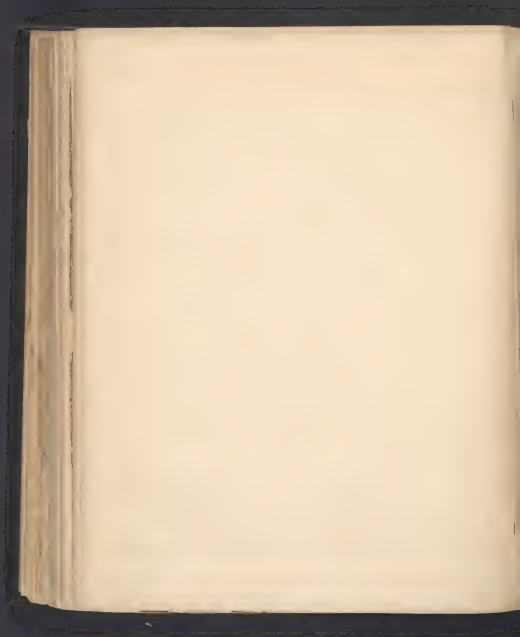
Diagnostic Symptoms - The pains of gastritis may, possibly though not easily be mistaken for



other pains of the stomach. In spasms and
flatulent pains of this organ, the pulse is natural
or is little altered, that if this were the only
diagnosis we should seldom err; nor are these
pains accompanied by that sudden prostration of
muscular power, which attends gastritis. Vomit-
ing in them is not a symptom universally atten-
dant nor is pain and vomiting certainly excited
by ingesta. - One of the best diagnostic symptoms
of gastritis, is the augmentation of ~~pain~~, when
pressure is made on the epigastrium. In them
there is no increase of pain from pressure nor is
trecup so constant a symptom. The voice of a
patient labouring under gastritis is compara-
tively free and his cries piercing, whereas in
spasm of the stomach there are a suffocation
and contraction, amounting oftentimes to a total
suppression of voice. It has been con-
sidered difficult to distinguish gastritis from
an inflammation of the epigastric muscles.



Although the symptoms of the two diseases are immediately blended and incorporated - it we think from experience - are without much differentiation. When the epigastric muscles are called into action, the pain of gastritis is not more greater; but if the inflammation be seated in the muscles by such motion the pain is greatly increased. The pulse in the latter case as in the phlegmonous generally, is strong if at all affected and not small and frequent as in gastritis, - Some degree of swelling of the muscles is usually apparent in nearly every case of their inflammation and there is no nausea - Some fulness however is often about the stomach also in gastritis - By Quarin according to A. M. Philp) it is said a diagnostic be known these cases is unimportant, since the practice in them is the same - This observation is not without its error - The greater sympathies of the organ affected by gastritis, impresses us with the necessity of promptly directing effective means to it, lest by the continuance and progress of diseased action such



unrelating symptoms shall arise as his diligence
to the powers of medicine.

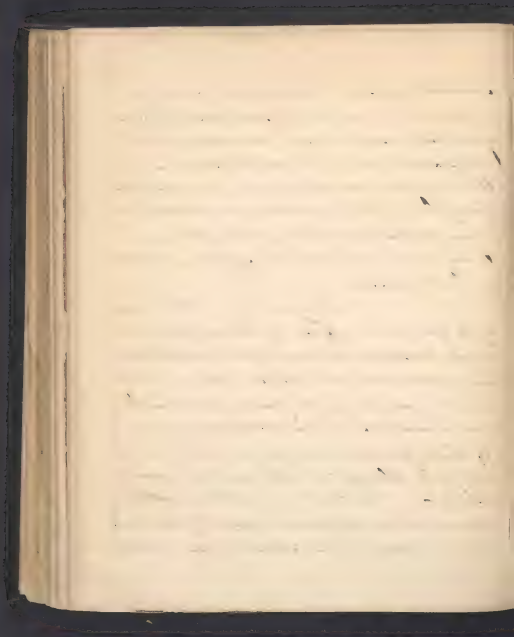
Prognosis— Boerhaave in enumerating the
terminations of gastritis says "It used to termi-
nate like all other inflammatory diseases into
health, suppurating, schirous, cancerous, gangre-
nous distempers or into sudden death itself, which
is hastened by convulsions." As in the Phlegma-
sia generally, the tendency of this disease to admit
of resolution is known, by its having arisen from
a slight cause, the symptoms being moderate and
yielding to appropriate remedies in the commence-
ment of the disease. If the symptoms are violent
and do not suffer remissions, the period of resolu-
tion is generally past within twenty four hours.
In less violent cases however, it may take place at
a later period when considerable remissions occur.

The tendency to terminate in sup-
puration is ascertained by the continuance of the
symptoms in a moderate degree without any con-



siderable remission - The existence of an abscess
is known by a remission of pain preceded by re-
gours; but a sense of weight and anxiety about
the praecordia remain to harass the patient - When
these symptoms occur the pulse is diminished in fre-
quency, but is shortly afterwards again increased with
vigorous, marked exacerbations, in the afternoon and
evening, night sweats and other symptoms indicative
of hectic fever -

Strong evidence of the tenden-
cy to gangrene is offered by the symptoms con-
tinually unsubdued or unmitigated notwithstanding
the judicious and well directed practice resorted
to, in the early part of the disease; and when he-
gum is indicated by the sudden cessation of pain;
by the pulse continuing its frequency but growing
wrether, by delirium and other marks of increasing
debility - The event of gastritis is seldom
favourable, as the patient is usually destroyed
by the violence of the attack or else it termi-



...nates in suppuration, ulceration or gangrene.
The danger of an imposthume of the stomach
must be evident to all. It usually proves
fatal unless it burst into the stomach, the
matter be discharged by vomiting or stool, &
the ulcer speedily healed. Notwithstanding
the opening of the abscess into the stomach, cases are
recorded, in which death took place as a conse-
quence from the ulcer left. These cases, some-
times terminate very suddenly by hæmorrhage.
Adhesion sometimes takes place between the sto-
mach and abdominal parietes from inflamma-
tion and then the abscess may burst externally.

The termination in gangrene is as
unfavourable as can be imagined, for it proves
uniformly and speedily fatal - Its termina-
tion in either suppuration or gangrene is an
event to be studiously avoided, but of the
two evils, choose suppuration as the least, for
the case is recorded in which the contents of



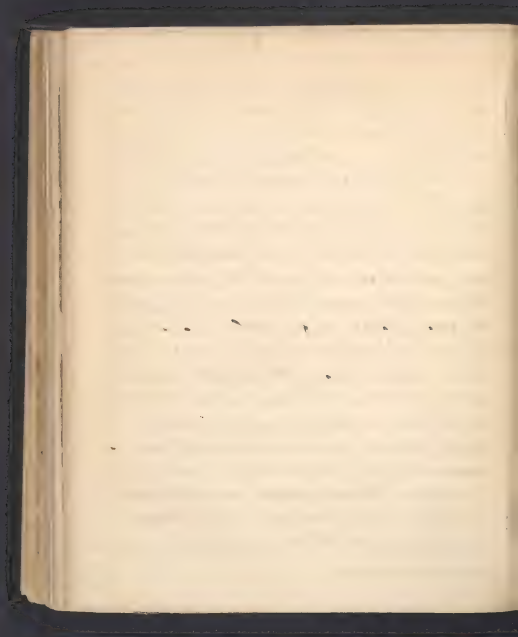
an abscess were externally discharged, so that it became necessary in the space of nearly three years to keep the opening closed by compresses and bandages. — Mankind are exceedingly tenacious of life and submit to sufferings almost intolerable to sustain it. — Paracentesis sometimes, originally and proves fatal. In consequence of the bursting of an abscess into the abdominal cavity — The modern writers agree generally that Scirrhus & Cancer have their origin from a cause different from that of inflammation and are therefore considered by them not the result of inflammation as formerly believed — Dr. Gibbon says "As regards the immediate cause of Cancer innumerable hypotheses have been framed — That which Hippocrates, nearest to truth, it seems to me, ascribes the disease to animalcular origin or as contended by Adams and Carmichael to the presence of hydatids — thus giving to Cancer an independent vitality"



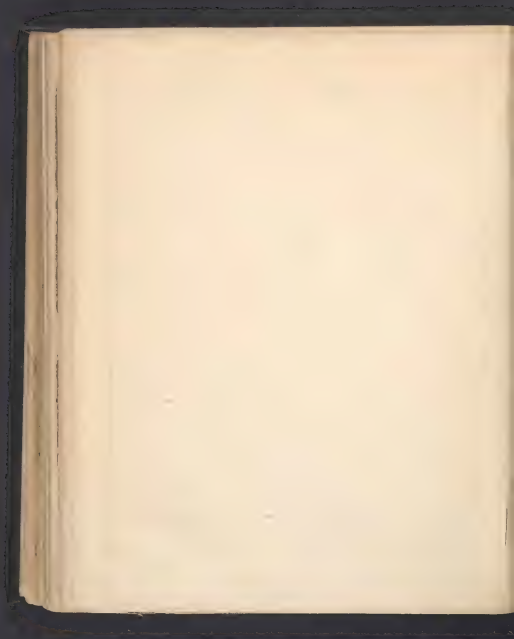
Such is the sympathy that exists between the stomach and other vital organs, that gastritis occasionally seems to prove fatal on this account, even in Children observes "From the sensibility of the stomach, and its communication with the rest of the system, it will be obvious that the inflammation of this organ by whatever causes produced, may be attended with fatal consequences. In particular by the great debility, which such an inflammation suddenly produces, it may quickly prove fatal without running the common course of inflammations." And Boerhaave as before said observes, that it occasionally causes sudden death with convulsions — Causes of gastritis — The remote predisposing causes of this disease, are the same as in other inflammatory diseases — Among the exciting causes of this disease, the application of cold, in various ways holds a conspicuous place.



as cause being more frequent than the checking of perspiration from cold drinks - Acid substances frequently excite this disease and especially when the mucus of the stomach, has been so altered and irritated as to execute its destined purpose badly; and it is a fact known and acknowledged and deserves to be recollected that those substances most acid to the taste are not those which when taken into the stomach, excite the greatest irritation. The spices for example though strongly affecting the sense of taste, are frequently received into the stomach without resulting inconvenience and barbarous Antimony, though quite insipid, occasions excitement the most violent - All substances however, strongly affecting taste, irritate the stomach in some degree and if used immoderately by the predisposed may excite gastritis - Drastic emetics and Cathartics, have been ranked as causes of this disease and are no doubt the causes occasionally



Since they are possessed of irritating powers -
the most irritating articles of diet, have also been
charged with exciting this disease - The immedi-
ate use of animal food and fermented liquors
very readily excite it in the predisposed,
and renew it in those lately recovered - Over-
distention applies a very hurtful irritation
to the stomach - Mechanical causes frequent-
ly produce the disease - as a blow on the epigas-
tric region, a wound of the stomach or some
contiguous part, the pressure of the crura of the
diaphragm from dislocation or fracture -
When gastritis arises from inflammation of the
neighboring parts it is symptomatic - I have
now enumerated the chief occasional causes
of gastritis - Malignant fevers are so frequently
accompanied with gastritis and enteritis,
that we are induced to suppose their cause
to attack the stomach primarily, & perpetuates
locally its deleterious effect - In erysipelas.

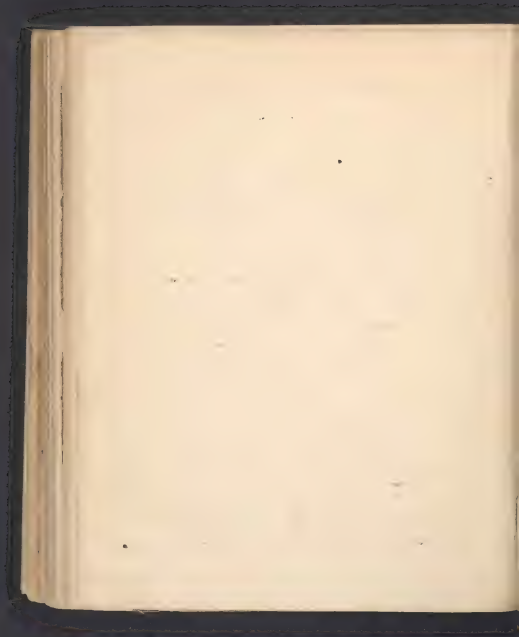


Joins it occasionally supervenes on the sudden reception of the eruption and probably soon runs into gangrene—an event confirmed by the great debility that attends and post mortem examinations.

Treatment of gastritis—Usually the indications are very obvious in a disease so violent and affecting so important a viscus—In the treatment of the phlegmasia, venesection is the sheet anchor of hope and in no case is it carried to a greater extent than in gastritis—As soon as its symptoms are developed the lancet should be drawn from its case and a quantity of blood taken, proportionate to their severity or carried as far as the habit will bear, and the smaller and weaker the patient provided the disease is idiopathic, informs us that early and copious bleeding is the more necessary. By Dr. Caldwell the annotator of Cullen's first line, blood



is directed to be drawn to considerable extent in
small and frequently repeated bleedings, but
by professor Chapman copiously—Blood-
letting in ordinary cases is called into requi-
sition to diminish the strength of the pulse;
but in this instance it is employed to increase
it and its efficacy is proportionate to the
degree of increase of strength and diminution
of hardness of the pulse—A correct
discrimination should therefore be made
between a strong and a hard pulse—Language
cannot convey too forcibly the impor-
tance of early bloodletting in this disease—
The circulation sometimes in the course
of a few hours becomes so languid as to
render it impossible to detect the requi-
site quantity of blood—the patient
falling a sacrifice to a disease origi-
nally controllable by bold, resolute
and decisive practice— After copious



resection the symptoms of gastritis totally
disappear, but the operation is transitory and
a recurrence of the disease almost always hap-
pens - The repetition of resection must be reg-
ulated as in the phlegmasia generally - the less
the remission after the first bleeding, the sooner must
it be repeated and to the greater extent - Evacu-
tions by the bowels must be elicited by cathar-
tic glysters, and not by the exhibition of purgatives
by the mouth, which by exciting vomiting would ag-
gravate every symptom of the disease - To this
as to all general rules there are exceptions -
Overdistention of stomach is sometimes the cause
of gastritis and in this case the patient is tor-
mented with incessant ineffectual efforts to vomit -
The lead it is evident must be removed - Under
such circumstances emetics and cathartics
taken by the mouth are the only effectual
means; but as a hurtful irritation would be
excited in the stomach by the exhibition of



an emetic, the cathartic only is admissible, & still farther to excite the due action of the stomach, the bowels should be excited by pills. By these means a part of the stomach's contents will pass into the intestines and the remainder expelled by vomiting. In all cases as soon as the disquietude of the stomach shall be allayed, Calomel should be administered. Calomel is preferable to all purgatives as it is less irritating, insipid, and of considerable specific gravity. It should be administered in pill.

When this disease has been excited by acrid or poisonous substances, received into the stomach, we must also give medicines by the mouth. If a specific corrector or Counterpoise be unknown we must endeavor to promote the vomiting by a combination of Sweet Taster with Opium or with the Sulphate of Copper. The dose should be large:



as the susceptibility of the stomach is almost destroyed in these cases when a narcotic poison has been swallowed. — Even large doses will sometimes fail to produce the desired effect. We may perhaps succeed by distending the stomach with warm water; applying Cataplasms of tobacco to the Umbilicus Cordis, tickling the fauces with a feather or an injection of tartar emetic. — These resources failing, we should have recourse to Professor Physics' instrument for pumping out the offending matter; and if we can have access to it we should think it proper in the first instance Cathartic medicines in the form of pills, should be administered in those cases when the poison has been so long swallowed as to warrant the belief that it has passed into the intestines. — Emetics are good adjuvants, for while they relieve the lower bowels, they turn by sympathy to



increase the peristaltic motion of the whole
alimentary canal - Muced mucilaginous me-
ments are useful even when diarrhoea
is an attendant, for they allay irritation &
extract any offending matter the intestines may
hold - Local blood-letting though so fre-
quently resorted to in the phlegmasia gen-
erally is seldom resorted to in gastritis, but
it may be employed in this with the same good
effect and is peculiarly adapted to those
symptomatic cases in which general blood-
letting is inadmissible or at least an am-
biguous remedy - It should be always made
acceptory unless general blood-letting prove
suddenly effectual - Blister to the
epigastrium are now frequently employed
than local blood-letting and produce results
the most pleasing, if applied after the hard-
ness of the pulse has abated in consequence



of the diligent use of the lancet - Stomentations
to the abdomen though feeble remedies, con-
duc to comfort the patient and should be
used - The warm bath deserves more notice
as a remedy; it excites perspiration, composes (he)
patient, calms the stomach and causes centrifugal
determination - The throat in this disease as be-
fore stated is very urgent - The patient should
be allowed simple water lime water and now
milk to quiet irritability, a thin mucilage of
gum arabic, sweet milk diluted with twice
its quantity of water or some mild acidulous
fluid - The drinks should be taken in small
quantity & frequently repeated, even these mild
articles will be frequently rejected, not
withstanding the extreme caution observed
in their exhibition -

When indications of approx-
imating gangrene are visible we must rely on



Opium, which in the one or other cases has a tenden-
cy to oppose the occurrence of gangrene. If
Opium fails, Professor Chapman confidently re-
commends the use of the *spiritus tartaricæ*.
It is no doubt an important remedy, when
judiciously used.

The duration of the dis-
ease renders an attention to diet necessary,
and should be regulated on the same prin-
ciple as drink. An abstinence from
food during the first days of the disease
is desirable, but when it continues longer
it is necessary to support the patient
by some mild preparation.

Opium or its preparations
so frequently used to allay vomiting
should be carefully avoided in
this disease till the advanced stage
when the violence of the disease is



broken by evacuations - Anodyne glysters
and even mild opiate, by the mouth;
(the bowels being attended to) under such
circumstances, allay the vomiting and
abridge the disease - The objection
to Opium in the first stage is its power
to increase the vis a tergo, but when
the pulse is reduced and consequently
but little hardness remaining as in
the second stage, the objection ceases -

The co-operation of the pa-
tient's power should be moderate and uni-
form -

(When gastritis, Super-
venes on the sudden reception of erup-
tions, the means of recalling them so far as
the nature of the disease admits, should
constitute a part of the practice - When
the symptoms of suppuration appear,
medicines can be of little further use and

if the patient is saved it is by the acci-
dental seat of the abscess. If it opens
into the stomach, irritating articles of diet
must be avoided till the ulcer is
healed. When by its bursting an ulcer
is formed externally, it should be
treated surgically. Gangrene of the sto-
mach is always fatal.

To the professors of this
university, I feel grateful for the information
derived from their lectures - that ~~they~~ ^{they} may
fill their chairs with the same credit as here-
before and enjoy health & happiness is the
sincere wish of - the Author

